United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/237

Meeting of States Parties

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New York, 11 August 2011

Report of the Meeting of States Parties to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

I. Introduction

1. The Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf) was held at Headquarters on 11 August 2011, in accordance with article 2 of annex II to the Convention. The election was to fill the vacancy that had occurred in the Commission owing to the demise of Mr. Kensaku Tamaki (Japan) on 5 April 2011.

2. The Meeting had before it the following documents: a note by the Secretary-General on the election procedures (SPLOS/232); the list of candidates nominated by States Parties (SPLOS/233); and the curriculum vitae of the candidate nominated by the Government of Japan (SPLOS/234).

II. Opening of the Meeting

3. Camillo Gonsalves (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), President of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties, opened the Meeting.

4. The Meeting observed a minute of silence in memory of the late Kensaku Tamaki.

5. For the purposes of conducting its business, the Meeting decided to retain the composition of the Bureau,[1] including the Presidency, as elected, and the composition of the Credentials Committee, as appointed by the twenty-first Meeting, held earlier this year from 13 to 17 June 2011.

[1] See SPLOS/231, paras. 5 and 6.

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III. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. The Meeting adopted the agenda (SPLOS/235) and approved the organization of work, as outlined by the President.

IV. Report of the Credentials Committee

7. The Credentials Committee, chaired by Robert Eric Alabado Borje (Philippines), met following the adoption of the agenda. The Chair of the Credentials Committee then introduced the report of the Credentials Committee (SPLOS/236) to the Meeting. In particular, he stated that the Committee had examined and accepted the credentials of the representatives of 142 States Parties to the Convention. The Meeting approved the report of the Committee and adopted the corresponding draft resolution without a vote.

V. Election of one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

8. The President informed the Meeting of the election procedures, recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of States Parties.

9. The representatives of Indonesia, Malta and Poland acted as tellers.

10. In the one round of balloting, Tetsuro Urabe (Japan) was elected as a member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, with 131 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. He will thus complete the remainder of his predecessor's term of five years, which will end on 15 June 2012.

11. On behalf of States Parties, the President congratulated Mr. Urabe on his election.